

offer to our large and enthusiastic Irish community the heartfelt words of the familiar Irish blessing:

May the road rise up to meet you,
May the wind be always at your back,
May the sun shine warm upon your face,
And the rains fall soft upon your fields,
And until we meet again, may God hold you
in the palm of His hand.●

JOHN J. LESSNER'S 100TH BIRTHDAY

● Mr. ABRAHAM. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize Mr. John J. Lessner, resident of Lapeer, MI, who on March 10th of this year celebrated his 100th birthday. It is my pleasure to honor him not only for having reached this landmark birthday, which is quite an accomplishment in itself, but also, and I think more importantly, for having lived his life in a manner truly worthy of commendation.

One of Mr. Lessner's favorite sayings is "Work-a-Million," and he has certainly lived by this virtue. For thirty-nine years he worked as a high-school teacher and coach, for thirty-seven years a football and basketball official, he sold world-book encyclopedias for twenty-four years, worked at the H.C. Frick Coal Mine and Monogahela Railroad for fifteen summers, spent nine years working towards his M.A. in Education, which he received from West Virginia University in 1953, spent six years constructing a home for his family and himself, spent three years playing fullback for the Brownsville (PA) Independence Football Team, and all this after he began his adult life by serving his country for a year in the U.S. Army.

On top of all this, Mr. Lessner, somehow found the time to be not only an active community member, but a community leader. He helped organize and develop two Parent Teacher Associations, in Greene County, PA, and Washington County, PA. He served as the first, twelfth and twenty-fifth president of the Greensboro Lions Club in Greensboro, PA. During World War II, he served as the Air Raid Warden for Brownsville, PA. And every Sunday, for eighteen years, he volunteered his time as a Sunday School Superintendent at Christian Church in Brownsville, PA, and then later at Mapletown Methodist Church in Mapleton, PA.

Most important to Mr. Lessner, though, has always been his family. He now resides in Lapeer, MI, with his son Jack, the eldest of his two children. He moved to Lapeer from Monroeville, PA, where he lived near his daughter, Maryjane. And undoubtedly one of his greatest days came on December 27, 1979, when he and his wife, Doris Steeves, celebrated their fiftieth wedding anniversary.

This may be selfish on my part, but as I read the biography of Mr. Lessner,

my only wish was that he had spent more of his one-hundred years in Michigan. His is a brand of remarkable that, unfortunately, you do not run into everyday. Regardless, John J. Lessner is a true role model, and we are glad to have him now. So, on behalf not only of myself but also of all my Michigan constituents, I would like to wish Mr. Lessner a happy 100th birthday, and I hope that there are many more to celebrate in the future.●

TRIBUTE TO J.W. "BUD" FORRESTER

● Mr. SMITH of Oregon. Mr. President, "To live fully," said Oliver Wendell Holmes, "is to be engaged in the passions of one's time."

Those words came to mind with the recent passing of the remarkable Oregon journalist, J.W. "Bud" Forrester. Mr. Forrester's family and friends can take solace in the fact that here was a man who truly lived a full life, for here was a man who dedicated himself to the passions of our time.

As a journalist, Bud Forrester earned a reputation as one of the best newspaper editors in my state. Whether at the helm of the Daily Astorian, or my home town newspaper, the East Oregonian, Bud Forrester called them like he saw them, and could always be counted on to stand up for what he believed was right for his community and his state.

That same commitment and common sense were also provided to countless boards and commissions, on which Bud Forrester served throughout his life. President of the Columbia River Maritime Museum, member of the State Board of Higher Education, member of the Oregon Land Conservation and Development Commission, unofficial advisor to Senators and Governors, community fund raiser and philanthropist extraordinaire—the list of Bud Forrester's contributions go on and on.

I consider myself very privileged to have known Bud Forrester, and know that his legacy of being engaged on the passions of our time will continue in the hands of his son, Steve, who serves as Editor and Publisher of the Daily Astorian.

The bottom line is that Oregon is a better place because of Bud Forrester. I join with countless others in my state in extending my sympathies to the Forrester family, and in paying tribute to a true original who indeed lived life fully.●

SILEX ASSEMBLY OF GOD CHURCH DEDICATION

● Mr. ASHCROFT. Mr. President, I rise today to congratulate and honor Silex Assembly of God in Silex, Missouri. On March 26th, they will be dedicating their new church building. This dedication and celebration is a tribute to God's faithfulness to the congregation,

which began gathering together in 1942. It is also a tribute to their labor of love and personal generosity, led by Pastor and Mrs. John Pool.

Pastor Pool, who retired in 1985, agreed to step up to the pulpit again when the Silex church called upon him to lead them. Now, at age 81, he and the congregation have built their new church themselves, with volunteer labor and sacrificial contributions of time and money. Mrs. Pool has helped feed the volunteer groups day after day. Their devotion to Christ brings honor to the name of the Lord.

I join those gathered for this wonderful occasion, including the Pool's five children and most of their grandchildren, in bringing best wishes for a memorable celebration as Silex Assembly of God renews its commitment to the redemptive mission of Christ. May God bless this ministry with many more years of celebration.●

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, which were referred as indicated:

EC-8012. A communication from the Director, Office of Regulations Management, Department of Veterans Affairs, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Appeals Regulations and Rules of Practice-Case Docketing" (RIN2900-AJ72), received March 16, 2000; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

EC-8013. A communication from the Director, Regulations Policy and Management Staff, Food and Drug Administration, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Public Information; Communications with State and Foreign Government Officials" (Docket No. 98N-0518), received March 16, 2000; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-8014. A communication from the Director, Regulations Policy and Management Staff, Food and Drug Administration, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Indirect Food Additives: Paper and Paperboard Components" (Docket No. 95F-0065), received March 16, 2000; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-8015. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller), transmitting, pursuant to law, a report of violations of the Anti-Deficiency Act by Air Force personnel; to the Committee on Appropriations.

EC-8016. A communication from the Legislative Liaison, U.S. Trade and Development Agency transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a prospective funding obligation; to the Committee on Appropriations.

EC-8017. A communication from the Director, Office of Surface Mining, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Pennsylvania Regulatory Program" (PA-127-FOR), received March 20, 2000; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-8018. A communication from the Assistant General Counsel for Regulatory Law, Department of Energy, transmitting, pursuant